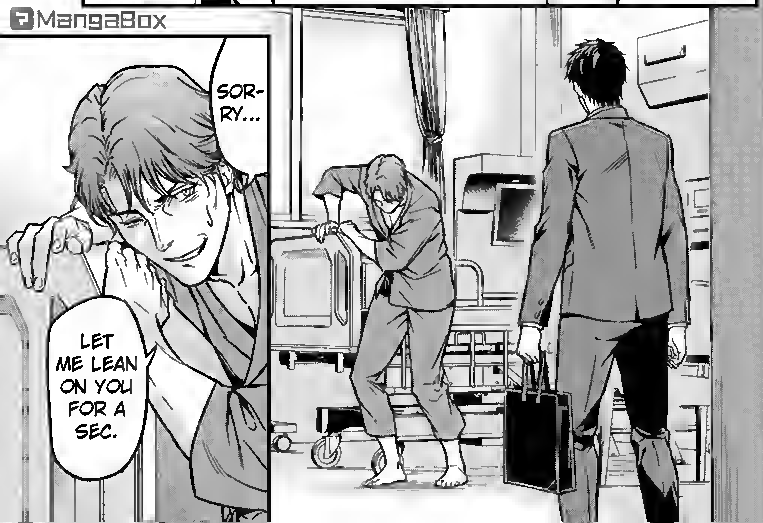
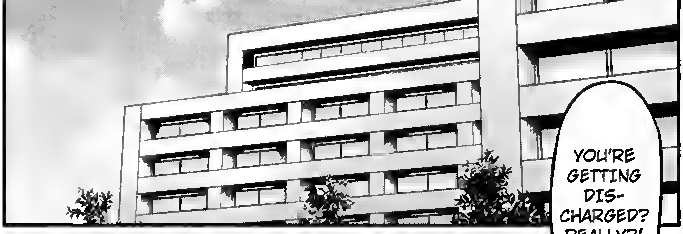
STORY: KIMO YANAGISAWA
ART: YOUSUKE MORI
TRANSLATION BY JENNIFER J. WARD
ADAPTATION BY ALEXANDRA E. SWANSON
YKS SERVICES LLC/SKY JAPAN INC

MangaBox





APPARENTLY THE INFLAM-MATION IN MY LIVER HAS GONE DOWN QUITE A BIT RECENTLY.
I WAS SURPRISED TO HEAR IT TOO. I'LL ONLY BE HERE FOR ANOTHER WEEK.

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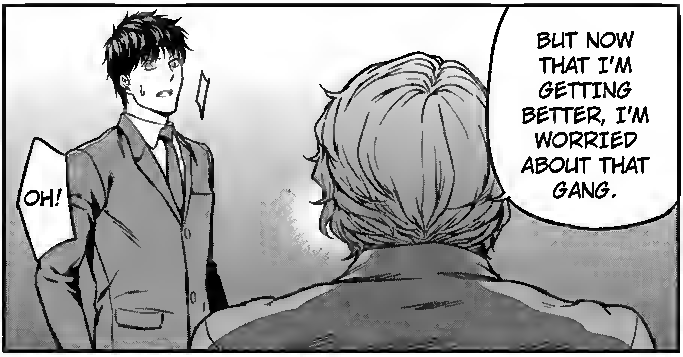
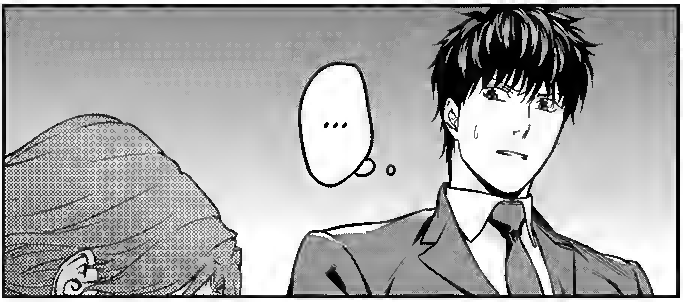

BUT NOW THAT I'M GETTING BETTER, I'M WORRIED ABOUT THAT GANG.
OH!

BUT THEY WERE SO BRUTAL, I CAN ONLY THINK THAT SOMEONE HAS PERSONAL GRUDGE AGAINST ME.
IF THE LAST TIME WAS A WARNING TO AKATSUKI PRO, THEN THAT WILL BE THE LAST OF IT.

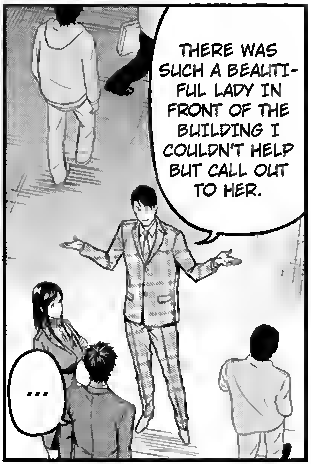
YOU COULD ASK THE COMPANY OR SOME-ONE FOR HELP—
WHAT WILL YOU DO?
THEY'LL PROBABLY COME AGAIN... TO FINISH ME OFF FOR SURE, THIS TIME.
THEN YOU'RE IN DANGER!



HOW ABOUT A DRINK AFTER THIS, KUROKI-KUN?
SORRY, SIR! MY GIRLFRIEND IS WAITING FOR ME AT THE STATION.
ビール
WHIRR
WHIRR
HUH? SHINO-BU...
!
OH! KOU-CHAN! HOW WAS WORK?

I GOT TO THE STATION EARLY, SO I LOOKED UP YOUR WORK-PLACE.
SORRY FOR INTRUD-ING.
WHY...?
OH... WELL THAT'S FINE, BUT...
WHY ARE YOU HERE, CHIEF KISHI-BE?
HEH HEH.
IT'S JUST A SAD HABIT WE HAVE IN THE ENTER-TAINMENT DEPART-MENT.
AKATSUKI PRODUCTIONS
CHIEF OF THE
ENTERTAINMENT DEPARTMENT
KISHIBE

SHE'S MY GIRL-FRIEND.

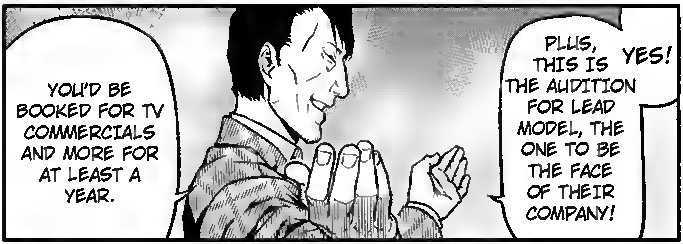

THERE WAS SUCH A BEAUTI-FUL LADY IN FRONT OF THE BUILDING I COULDN'T HELP BUT CALL OUT TO HER.
...

YEP.
SO I HEARD FROM AOI-SAN.

IT WOULD BE SUCH A WASTE TO LEAVE YOU LANGUISH IN OBSCU-RITY...
OH, I KNOW!

BUT MAN, THE MORE I LOOK AT YOU, THE PRETTIER YOU SEEM!
I'M REALLY NOT...
YOU'VE GOT CLASS AND GREAT SKIN.

COWALL, THE MAKEUP BRAND, IS LOOKING FOR AN IMAGE MODEL.
HOW ABOUT IT? WILL YOU AUDITION FOR AKATSUKI PRO?
?!
HUH?
YOU MEAN, THE COWALL COS-METICS ?!

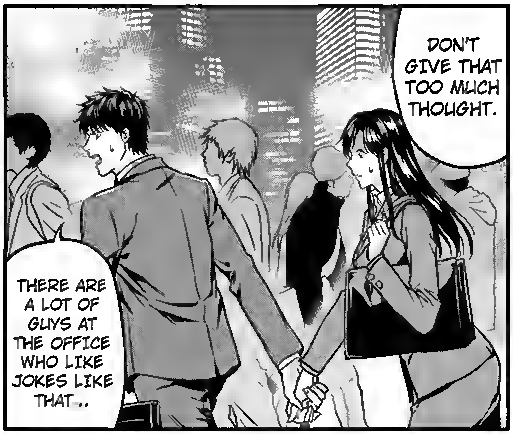

PLUS, THIS IS THE AUDITION FOR LEAD MODEL, THE ONE TO BE THE FACE OF THEIR COMPANY!
YES!
YOU'D BE BOOKED FOR TV COMMERCIALS AND MORE FOR AT LEAST A YEAR.

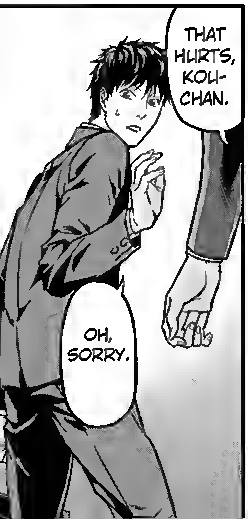
YOU'D BE MUCH MORE VALUABLE AND POPULAR WITH THE PUBLIC THAN THE AVERAGE MODEL.
...
IF YOU GET STARTED NOW, YOU'D HAVE A VERY HIGH CHANCE OF SUCCE—
GRAB

SEE YOU LATER, CHIEF.
LET'S GO, SHI-NOBU
OH... YEAH.

PLEASE DON'T, SIR.
WHAT'LL YOU DO IF SHE TAKES YOUR JOKES SERIOUS-LY?

GIVE ME A CALL! PLEASE DO!


DON'T GIVE THAT TOO MUCH THOUGHT.
THERE ARE A LOT OF GUYS AT THE OFFICE WHO LIKE JOKES LIKE THAT..


THAT HURTS, KOU-CHAN.
OH, SORRY.

SO WHERE DO YOU WANT TO HAVE DINNER?
...
YOU CAN'T REALLY RELAX IN ANY OF THE RESTAU-RANTS AROUND HERE...
HUH?
. I WILL
KOU-CHAN...
I...WANT TO GO TO THAT AUDITION!
SHI-NOBU ...?!

KOUTAROU IS UNABLE TO HIDE HIS SHOCK AT SHINOBU'S DECLARATION! WHY?! WHY WOULD SHE?!